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A N N U A L   R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L   O F F I C E R   O F   H E A L T H

for the year

1 9 4 5.



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF  
THE LOUTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1945 on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the area.

The Vital Statistics, general and particular, are highly satisfactory in comparison with the corresponding rates for the Country as a whole and relative to the District rates for other years. The Birth Rate is not so high as the previous year but the Death Rate is lower.

The total Notifications of Infectious Diseases were high on account of a Measles outbreak, which was part of a general epidemic of this disease during the first five months of the year. Measles cases account for 82% of the total Notifications and the other diseases showed an individual decrease which was most marked in the case of Scarlet Fever. Once again the yearly record includes an entry for Diphtheria - a single case which unfortunately also appeared in the death column. The child was not Immunised.

The Diphtheria Immunisations returns were not quite so good as recent years. It is considered, however, that the arrangements now existing by which the services of the family practitioner can be more freely availed of in providing treatment for the pre-school children without cost to the parent will improve matters.

Little comment seems called for regarding the Sanitary circumstances of the area at this particular time when Schemes are in preparation or are anticipated. The existing services, such as they are, can be regarded as satisfactorily supervised, though this can hardly be said of the milk production. Inspection of premises alone does not provide sufficient criterion regarding the cleanliness of the milk produced, without analyses of Milk samples.

The Rural Housing Survey started in October, when completed, will make available for office reference a detail of information long desired.

I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their consideration, help and co-operation during the year.

Yours faithfully,

W.J. KERRIGAN.

Medical Officer of Health

August. 1946.



(1)

LOUTH RURAL DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE HEALTH & SANITARY CONDITIONS

for the year 1945.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

Medical Officer of Health - W.J.Kerrigan, M.B. B.Ch., B.A.O., L.M., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector & Building Surveyor - S.Shone. A.R. San.I.

Additional " " & Assist." " - H.Longworth A.R. San.I.

" " " Engaged full time on - J.P.Smith A.R. San.I.  
Rural Housing Survey. (Resumed duty on demobilisation Sept. 1945)

Milk & Dairies Inspector (Part Time) A.H. Adams M.R.C.V.S.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS & STATISTICS.

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Area of Rural District in Acres.....                              | 153,129. |
| Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population mid 1945..... | 15,960   |
| Number of Inhabited Houses.....                                   | 5239     |
| Rateable Value of Inhabited Houses.....                           | £32,765. |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate.....                              | £ 237.   |

Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS

|               | <u>Live Births.</u> | <u>Total.</u> | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Legitimate.   | 255                 | 119           | 136          |                |
| Illegitimate. | 30                  | 9             | 21           |                |
|               | <u>285</u>          | <u>128</u>    | <u>157</u>   |                |

Still Births.

|               |          |          |          |
|---------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Legitimate.   | 3        | 2        | 1        |
| Illegitimate. | -        | -        | -        |
|               | <u>3</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>1</u> |

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population .....

17.9(16.1)

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of all births.....10. (4.6)

DEATHS

|  | <u>Total.</u> | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> |
|--|---------------|--------------|----------------|
|  | 180           | 87           | 93.            |

Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population.....11.3(11.4)

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 & 30 of the Registrar General's Short List).....Nil.



DEATHS. Contd.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All Infants per 1,000 live births..... 21 (46)

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births..... 20

Illegitimate " " illegitimate " " ..... 33

(Bracketed figures show the corresponding rates for England and Wales)

Deaths from Cancer..... (a) Under 50 years..... 3.

(b) 50 - 70 " ..... 11.

(c) Over 70 " ..... 15...29.

Deaths from Measles..... Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough..... Nil.

Deaths from Diarrhoea under 2 years..... Nil.

Ages at Death.

Years 0/1 1/5 5/15 15/25 25/35 35/45 45/55 55/65 65/75 75/85 85/95 Tot

| <u>6.</u> | <u>3.</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>4.</u> | <u>4.</u> | <u>1.</u> | <u>15.</u> | <u>19.</u> | <u>51.</u> | <u>51.</u> | <u>26.</u> | <u>180.</u> |
|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA. - SECTION B.(a) Laboratory Facilities.

On an agreed annual block payment basis all the Bacteriological examinations for which the Council is responsible are done at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Lincoln, and the few Chemical analyses required are done by a Public Analyst on fee per specimen basis.

These arrangements work very satisfactorily.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

The only provision made by the Council is the payment of an annual retaining fee for the use of the Cleethorpes Borough Ambulance when required by residents in the Northern part of the District. The Council also pays the cost of individual journeys and seeks recovery from the patients. In Louth Borough which is the general hospital centre for the District, a British Red Cross ambulance is available in addition to the service maintained by the County Infirmary for its own patients. In the Southern part of the District patients may avail of the Red Cross ambulances stationed at Mablethorpe and Spilsby.



(3)

Ambulance Facilities. (contd.)

Infectious Disease Hospitals and Sanatoria supply transport for their patients.

No complaints were received about the facilities which are considered adequate.

(c) Nursing in the Home.

District Nurses are centred at the following places:-

North Somercotes,      North Cotes,      Hainton,      Binbrook,  
Grimoldby and Authorpe.

The County Council can supply a nurse for the home in certain cases of infectious disease.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

The only Centres available in the Rural District are at Holton le Clay and Tetney, where at each a Maternity and Child Welfare Session is attended once monthly by the Medical Officer and fortnightly by the area Health Visitor. The Louth and Cleethorpes Clinics which provide adequate provision for consultative advice and treatment are generally availed of.

The lack of Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in the District is generally recognised and deplored, but it is understood no improvement can be expected until the County Council will be able to recruit additional medical and nursing staff.

Hospitals.

The District is chiefly served by the Louth General Hospitals but Grimsby General Hospital and Alford and District Hospital absorb a quota of patients in the areas adjoining them.

As in other years Infectious disease cases requiring hospitalisation were sent to either Grimsby Corporation or Osgodby Hospitals under the Council's agreement with the North East Lindsey Joint Hospital Board.

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SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA. SECTION C.Water Supply.

The following shows the number of Samples taken during the year with the result of the Bacteriological Examinations.

| Source.                  | No. of Samples. | Result.                          |
|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Binbrook (Public Supply) | 10.             | All Satisfactory.                |
| Grimoldby ( " )          | 12.             | 11 Satisfactory<br>One doubtful. |
| Camp Sites.              | 4.              | Satisfactory.                    |
| Private Supplies.        | 7.              | 5 polluted.                      |

The total number of dwelling houses supplied under the Public Scheme is 275 representing about 5% of the total - and of which 41 obtain their supplies from Standpipes serving groups of properties.

During the year the Grimoldby supply was extended to include the village of South Cockerington by the laying of 2,500 yards of main. An extension of 500 yards of main was also laid in Binbrook village.

The water from the Public Supplies gave consistently satisfactory bacteriological analytic results except on one occasion which appeared due to accidental contamination. No chlorination of the water going into supply has been done, but facilities are available to effect this if necessity arises.

The Council lost no time in preparing its general plans for water under the Post War Reconstruction Scheme, and before the end of the year the approved area Scheme was ready for submission to the Ministry. Urgency reasons required Donington on Bain, Holton le Clay, Ludford and Stewton areas to be considered in advance of the operation of the major scheme, and arrangements were considered to effect this with the least possible delay.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Only 2 Parishes have modern sewage systems discharging into proper disposal works. The majority of the villages depend on a primitive system of drains which discharge into dykes in the village outskirts.

The Binbrook sewage disposal works was well maintained during the year and produced a very satisfactory effluent on analysis. An improvement to the Manby works was effected by a thorough clearing out by the Alford Drainage Board of the dyke into which the effluent discharges. This by providing a clearer flow helps in the prevention of the back water pressure which interfered with the proper functioning of the works. In these works three sludge beds were concrete lined and eight sludge beds were provided with new drains and stone media, during the year.



SECTION C. CONT.Closets.

No information is available regarding the number of houses in the District with privy vaults, pail closets, chemical or water closets. Four Conversions to water system were reported.

Disinfections.Rooms.

|                                  |    |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Ordinary infectious disease..... | 2. |
| Tuberculosis.....                | 8. |

Articles.

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Ordinary Infectious disease..... | 33. |
| Tuberculosis.....                | 10. |

House Refuse Collection.

No extension of the collection system was made but the Council approved a scheme for regular fortnightly collections in the five Parishes previously serviced at monthly intervals. It is desirable when possible to extend this service to other areas.

Nuisances.

The Sanitary Inspector reports that 39 were abated by informal action - no cases having been reported to the Council.

HOUSING SECTION D.Total No. of New Houses Erected During the Year.

|                                       |      |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| (1) By the Local Authority.....       | 10.  |
| (II) By other Local Authorities.....  | Nil. |
| (III) By other bodies or persons..... | Nil. |

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses During the Year.

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..... 684.
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.... 698.
- (2) (a) No. of dwelling-houses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.... 631.
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.... 660.
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation..... Nil.
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation..... 315.

2. Remedy of Defects During the Year without Service of FORMAL NOTICES:-

Number of Defective Dwelling-Houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers..... 53.

3. Action under Statutory Powers During the Year.

Nil under all heads.



HOUSING. SECTION D. Contd.Housing Act 1936 - Part LV - Overcrowding.

- (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .... Not known  
 (ii) Number of families dwelling therein ..... Not known  
 (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ..... Not known
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ..... 3.
- (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ..... 3  
 (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ..... -
- (d) Number of houses again overcrowded after being previously relieved ..... Nil.

INSPECTIONS AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD - SECTION E.Bakehouses.

|                                    |    |
|------------------------------------|----|
| No: in District .....              | 10 |
| No: of Inspections, reported ..... | 19 |

Cowheds.

|  |      |
|--|------|
| X { No: on Register .....                      | 645  |
| { No of Inspections .....                      | 1223 |
| X { Contraventions of Regulations .....        | 36   |
| { Contraventions of Regulations remedied ..... | 36   |

Dairies and Milkshops.

|  |      |
|--|------|
| X { No on Register.....                      | 118  |
| { No: of Inspections.....                    | 487  |
| { Contraventions of Regulations .....        | Nil. |
| X From Report of Milk and Dairies Inspector. |      |

Results of Examinations of Milk Samples.

| Type of Milk | Satisfactory | Unsatisfactory | Sampling Authority. |
|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Accredited.  | 36           | 14             | Lindsey C.C.        |
| T.T.         | 4            | 2              | Lindsey C.C.        |
| Ungraded.    | -            | -              | Louth R.D.          |

There are 28 producers in the Area with Accredited herds, three of whom are licenced for production of T.T. Milk.

It is regretted that no samples of Milk other than Accredited and T.T. were subjected to analysis during the year. This is the only method of checking cleanliness of milk production, and though it is indeed a formidable problem in so large an area with so many producers, ways and means will require to be found to cope with it.

Ice Cream.

No samples were sent for analysis, but there was very little manufactured in the District during the year.



(5) 7.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

## SECTION F.

Infectious Diseases other than Tuberculosis Notified during 1945.

| Disease.                    | Total Cases Notified. | Cases Admitted to Hospital. | Total Deaths. |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Measles . . . . .           | 202                   | 2                           | -             |
| Mumps . . . . .             | 5                     | -                           | -             |
| Scarlet Fever . . . . .     | 11                    | 2                           | -             |
| Diphtheria . . . . .        | 1                     | -                           | 1             |
| Pneumonia . . . . .         | 5                     | -                           | 2             |
| Erysipelas . . . . .        | 2                     | -                           | -             |
| Chicken Pox . . . . .       | 4                     | -                           | -             |
| Encephalitis . . . . .      | 1                     | 1                           | -             |
| Whooping Cough . . . . .    | 11                    | -                           | -             |
| Puerperal Pyrexia . . . . . | 2                     | +1                          | -             |
| C.S.Meningitis . . . . .    | 1                     | 1                           | -             |
|                             | 245                   | 7                           | 3             |

+ Case arose in General Hospital and was nursed there.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The following number of children was Immunised during the year:-

1 - 4 years (incl.) Including those done privately....195.  
 5 - 14 " .....19.

Estimated Percentage of children Immunised in the area.

(a) 1 - 4 years (incl.).....89%  
 (b) 5 - 14 " " .....88%

No accurate counter check was possible in the case of the children of pre school age, but the School age group was checked by surveys of the individual Schools in the area with inclusion of children domiciled in the area but attending Schools outside it. The following gives a brief outline of the result of this survey for the 33 Elementary Schools in the District:-

| Percentage Immunised. | 100 | 100/95 | 95/90 | 90/85 | 85/80 | 80/75 | 75/70 | Under 70 |
|-----------------------|-----|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| No. of Schools.       | 3   | 5      | 5     | 11    | 2     | 5     | 1     | 1        |

The results in general were not so good as in recent years but this was considered due to lack of facilities offered for Immunisation of the under 5 children rather than any falling off of interest or co-operation on the part of the parents. The intention to make greater use of the services of the general practitioners in Districts so poorly served with Clinic centres should effect the requisite improvement.



(1) 8.

SECTION F. Contd.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Tuberculosis - New Cases and Mortality during 1945.

| Age Periods. | New Cases   |    |                 |    | Deaths.     |    |                 |    |
|--------------|-------------|----|-----------------|----|-------------|----|-----------------|----|
|              | Respiratory |    | Non-Respiratory |    | Respiratory |    | Non-Respiratory |    |
|              | M.          | F. | M.              | F. | M.          | F. | M.              | F. |
| 0.....       |             |    |                 |    |             |    |                 |    |
| 1.....       |             |    | 1               |    |             |    | 1               |    |
| 5.....       |             | 1  | 3               |    |             |    |                 |    |
| 15.....      |             |    | 1               |    |             |    |                 |    |
| 25.....      | 2           | 1  | 1               | 1  |             |    |                 |    |
| 35.....      |             |    | 1               |    | 1           |    |                 |    |
| 45.....      | 1           |    |                 |    |             |    |                 |    |
| 55.....      |             | 1  |                 |    | 1           |    |                 |    |
| 65.&...      |             |    |                 |    |             |    |                 |    |
| Upwards..... |             |    |                 | 1  |             |    |                 |    |
| <br>Totals   | 3           | 3  | 7               | 2  | 2           | -  | 1               | -  |



APPENDIX 1.

Causes of Death in the  
RURAL DISTRICT OF LOUTH.

| Causes of Death.  | 1945  |          |
|---|-------|----------|
|   | Males | Females. |
| 1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever  | ...   | -        |
| 2. Cerebro Spinal Fever   | ...   | -        |
| 3. Scarlet Fever  | ...   | -        |
| 4. Whooping Cough   | ...   | -        |
| 5. Diphtheria   | ...   | 1        |
| 6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System                                   | ...   | 2        |
| 7. Other forms of Tuberculosis  | ...   | 1        |
| 8. Syphilitic diseases  | ...   | -        |
| 9. Influenza  | ...   | 1        |
| 10. Measles   | ...   | -        |
| 11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis                           | ...   | -        |
| 12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis                                       | ...   | -        |
| 13. Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus<br>(male)and uterus (female) | ...   | 1        |
| 14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum                                      | 3     | 3        |
| 15. Cancer of Breast  | ...   | 3        |
| 16. Cancer of all other sites   | 7     | 12       |
| 17. Diabetes  | ...   | 1        |
| 18. Inter cranial vascular lesions                                      | 8     | 16       |
| 19. Heart Disease   | 33    | 28       |
| 20. Other diseases in the circulatory system                            | 6     | 3        |
| 21. Bronchitis  | 2     | 6        |
| 22. Pneumonia   | 2     | -        |
| 23. Other respiratory diseases  | ...   | -        |
| 24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum  | 1     | -        |
| 25. Diarrhoea under two years   | ...   | -        |
| 26. Appendicitis  | ...   | 1        |
| 27. Other digestive diseases  | 2     | 5        |
| 28. Nephritis   | 4     | 1        |
| 29. Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis                                  | ...   | -        |
| 30. Other maternal causes   | ...   | -        |
| 31. Premature birth   | ...   | 2        |
| 32. Congenital malformation,birth injury,<br>infantile diseases         | 2     | 2        |
| 33. Suicide   | 1     | 1        |
| 34. Road Traffic accidents  | ...   | -        |
| 35. Other violent causes  | 1     | 1        |
| 36. All other causes  | 10    | 7        |
| Totals  | 87    | 93       |

